

FIVE PERSONS HURT AT FIRE IN BUSINESS BLOCK

TWENTY-FIVE ESCAPE IN SCANTY CLOTHING

ATHLETIC CLUB HOUSE BURNED

STRIKE PROBE REPORT MADE

Fire of Unknown Origin Destroys Four Story Lowe Building and Sweeps Five Floors of the Union National Bank Structure Adjoining.

THOSE TRAPPED BY FLAMES JUMP OR FALL FROM UPPER FLOORS TO GROUND

Fairmont Firemen with Apparatus Rush to the Scene on Special Trolley Car and Help Local Department—Loss is \$150,000 with about \$75,000 Insurance.

THE INJURED

ARCHIE WILSON, mechanic employed at the New-comer garage, jumped from third floor rear of Lowe building; arms, legs, face and neck badly burned, back injured and perhaps internally injured. Taken to St. Mary's hospital.

DALLAS SWIGER, employe of Roberts Hardware Company, jumped from third floor rear of Lowe building; left leg broken, badly burned and bruised. Taken to St. Mary's hospital.

EARL BROWN, severely burned and bruised, internally injured; jumped from third floor of Lowe building. Taken to St. Mary's hospital.

MARSH D. CANNON, district superintendent of the Philadelphia Company of West Virginia, fell from fifth floor of Union National Bank building; badly bruised and internally injured. Taken to his home on Oak street.

ROBERT HUGILL, son of Edmund Hugill and employe of the Philadelphia Company of West Virginia; fell from fifth floor of bank building; badly bruised and internally injured. Taken to Kessler hospital.

THE PROPERTY LOSSES		
	Loss	Insur.
LOWE BLDG., owned by C. E. Prunty	\$50,000	\$40,000
UNION NATIONAL BANK BLDG.	25,000	None
MILLIREN BROTHERS, clothing store	24,000	24,000
DR. A. T. POST, physician	12,000	1,500
DR. C. O. POST, physician	5,000	1,500
NATHAN POST AND FAMILY	1,000	
EARL JONES AND FAMILY	700	
C. A. OSBORN	300	None
DR. JOHN E. LAW	2,000	
DR. JOHN B. PAYNE	2,200	None
CENTRAL FAIRMONT COAL CO.	350	None
O. L. McDONALD, lawyer	200	None
DR. H. E. SLOANE, physician	100	None
MISS DRESDEN WARD, Manicurist	600	None
O. H. LEVIER	300	None
R. L. STROTHER, lawyer	100	None
DAVE STRADER	100	None
WOODFORD ROBINSON	200	None
D. M. OGDEN COMPANY	400	400
TRADERS ANNEX COMPANY	300	None
DR. J. B. WINFIELD	300	None
PHILADELPHIA CO. OF W. VA.	100	None
VARIOUS OTHER OFFICE AND APARTMENT FURNISHINGS	5,000	
Total	\$130,250	\$67,400

Five persons were badly hurt, a score suffered grievously from being forced to flee into the snow in only their nightclothing and property damage estimated at \$125,000 was caused by fire of an unknown origin, which broke out in the basement of the Lowe building on West Main street about 3 o'clock Monday morning, and before it was finally got under control three hours later, through the combined efforts of the local and Fairmont fire departments, destroyed this building and gutted the second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth floors of the Union National Bank building adjoining.

All those injured received their injuries in jumping or falling from upper floors to the street below, their escape by either the stairway or fire escape being cut off by the flames before they were awakened. Some of the injured sustained burns in addition to the injuries received in jumping.

Much uneasiness was caused among the crowd by the belief that three or four persons, occupants of the apartments in the Lowe building, had perished in the flames. However this uneasiness was set at rest later in the day when every occupant was accounted for.

Trapped by the flames in the office of the Philadelphia Company of West Virginia on the sixth floor of the bank building, Marsh D. Cannon, district manager of the company, and Robert S. Hugill, an employe of the company, had miraculous escapes from death when their hands slipped from an icy rope, which they were attempting to climb down to safety, and fell about fifty feet to the street below.

The two men let down a cord from the window and to this a rope was attached and drawn back up. Hugill first attempted to slide down to safety but his hands slipped on the rope after he had let himself down to the fifth floor in safety, and he fell to the street below. He was rushed to a local hospital, where an examination showed that there were no broken bones and that he was suffering from no serious injuries. He was badly bruised about the face and body.

Slipped From Rope.

Mr. Cannon followed in a few minutes and he too was unable to hold the icy rope and fell five stories. He struck the projecting ledge at the top of the first story and this broke his fall and no doubt saved him from being seriously injured. He was taken to his home suffering from severe

bruises. He may be internally injured but his hurts are not believed to be serious.

After having his fall broken once by the projecting ledge at the second story, the force of Mr. Cannon's fall was again halted as he fell upon D. S. Lawman, who was standing in Third street. Thus it is seen that Mr. Cannon struck the pavement with consequently little force, considering the distance that he fell.

The fire was seen by the young men passing the street and they made all possible haste in notifying the fire department, which responded promptly.

When the fire department arrived on the scene the Lowe building was a seething mass of flames. Four streams were soon turned on the blaze but had little effect as the building was practically consumed at the time of their arrival. The flames soon ate their way through the windows on the third and fourth floors of the bank building and the attention of the firemen was then directed towards checking the spread of the flames to other floors of the bank building.

The wire-glass windows on the east side of the Union National Bank building, said to be a great aid in checking flames, gave way before the terrific heat, melting like lead, and the fire ate its way into the offices on this side of the bank building. Some of the windows were nearly bent double when they became hardened and presented a curious appearance.

Fairmont Department Called.

Sheffey Ross F. Stout, called the Fairmont fire department at 3:30 o'clock when the fire was burning the fiercest and the quick response of the local department in getting the fire under control. The chief of the Fairmont department accompanied five firemen, four members of the police department, representatives of the newspapers, 1,200 feet of hose and all necessary couplings to use the hose were loaded on a street car and the run to the city was made in 49 minutes.

Chief Isenhardt of the local fire department was awaiting the Fairmont men and upon their arrival led them into the Union Bank building where the fire was gaining considerable headway and by good, steady work they finally worked their way from the second to the seventh floor driving the fire before them and extinguishing it before it reached the

eight floor.

Jumped From Third Floor.

Awakened by the dense smoke, Dave Strader and Woodford T. Robinson, young men who occupied rooms 408 and 410 in the Lowe building, escaped to the street by way of the elevator operated by C. E. Prunty. This was at 3:20 o'clock before the fire department arrived. They ran around to the rear of the building and found the entire ground and second floors a mass of flames. Earl Brown jumped from the third floor at that time and they picked him up and carried him to the jail building. On their return to the rear of the Lowe building, they helped others pick up another of the young men who jumped from the third floor of the burning building and carry him into the Tri-State Candy Company's storeroom on Third street. The injured man was then taken to a hospital in an ambulance.

Strader and Woodford did not go to bed until about 12:30 o'clock. Just before doing so, one of them said he thought he smelled something burning but another roomer who was with them said it was a cigaret he was smoking. They thought no more of it then. They saved none of their belongings but the clothes on their back and an overcoat apiece when they left the burning structure.

Curtis E. Prunty, owner of the Lowe building, whose room was on the fourth floor, was among those to discover the fire, and he has the following to say concerning the work of the local fire department:

"The department was on the scene as quickly as could be expected after the fire was discovered. I was there throughout the fire. The building was a solid mass of flames soon after the blaze was discovered and was thus found by the department upon its arrival. The department's work was fine and I think the local firemen did all that anyone could do."

Many in Lowe Building.

The second floor of the Lowe building was occupied by Nathan Post and family, Earl Jones and family, Dr. A. T. Post with his office and Curtis E. Prunty with his office.

On the third floor of that building was the office of Dr. C. O. Post as well as rooms occupied by several roomers, among whom were Dr. Oscar H. LeVier, Miss Josephine Teets, Messrs. Swiger and Hall, Mr. Haney, Miss Bain, Mr. Haney and Miss Ward.

Mrs. Florence Byers and son, John Kirkpatrick, Mrs. Ella M. Fanner, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Moore, Charles W. Vannort, R. J. Sullivan and Messrs. Robinson and Strader had rooms on the fourth floor. Mr. Prunty, owner of the building, also roomed on that floor.

Offices Destroyed.

The banking rooms were badly damaged by water. Paul M. Robinson, vice president of the Union National Bank, announced this morning that the bank would be open for business as soon as the water could be cleaned out.

All office fixtures and furniture in rooms on the second, third and fifth floors of the bank building were destroyed by fire and water while offices on the fourth, sixth, seventh and tenth floors were damaged by smoke and water.

Offices of the following persons were destroyed: Dr. J. B. Winfield, J. Philip Clifford, attorney at law; O. L. McDonald, attorney at law; R. L. Strotcher, attorney at law; Madame Seaton, the Princess Shop; Dr. J. E. Payne, Dr. John E. Law, dentist; Charles C. Scott, attorney at law; Dr. B. D. Avis, dentist.

Offices of the following persons were damaged by smoke and water: Fred L. Shinn, attorney-at-law; John Craig, The Philadelphia Company, of West Virginia, Bradstreet's, Central Fairmont Coal Company, the Franciscan Coal Company and Dr. H. E. Sloan.

R. J. Sullivan, proprietor of the Sanitary barber shop on Fourth street, who had a room in the Lowe building, was reported among the missing, but he luckily slept in his barber shop and thus escaped the fire.

The terrific heat cracked the plate glass windows in the store of the D. M. OGDEN Company in the Maxwell building entailing a loss of about \$300 to the owners, the Traders Annex Company. There was no insurance.

As is frequently the case there

(Continued on page five.)

SAME FIRE FATE IN OTHER CITIES

Is Recalled by the Burning of Big Fireproof Structure Here.

The nature of the fire that destroyed the Lowe building and damaged the Union National Bank building, recalls to local citizens other fires of similar kind that have occurred in other cities.

One of those cited as a parallel case was the destruction of the old Gibson House, a hotel, several years ago in Cincinnati. O. Adjoining it was the Union Central Trust and Guaranty Company's tall building, constructed like the Union National Bank building here. The flames from the Gibson house, an old fire

Six Are Known to Be Dead and Several Others Are Believed to Be Dead.

SEVEN STORY BUILDING Roof and Massive Walls of the High Structure Are in the Heap of Ruins.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Mar. 9.—Six persons were known to be dead and their bodies have been recovered and twenty-four were missing today as a result of the Missouri Athletic Club fire. These figures were given in a statement issued by a committee of the club which sought a record of every man known to have been registered at the club house last night. For the twenty-four missing hope was practically abandoned.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Mar. 9.—Three men are known to be dead, others are believed to have been burned to death and two scores were seriously injured in a fire which early today destroyed the seven-story building housing the Missouri Athletic Club and the Boatman's Bank at Fourth street and Washington avenue. At 8 o'clock besides the three men known to be dead in the Missouri Athletic Club, officers of the organization had the names of fifteen unaccounted for. These were practically given up as lost.

The known dead are C. F. Kessler, 49, manager of Laidlaw-Saylor Wire Company, St. Louis, killed in jump from sixth floor; John M. Riekey, 50, of St. Paul, general auditor of the Ford Automobile Company, found burned to death on the third floor; James Riley, 55, a guest at the club. The property damage is estimated at more than one million dollars. In the vaults of the bank covered by the ruins are more than one million dollars in currency and \$27,000 in coin. At daylight only part of the front and rear walls remained. The roof had caved in carrying several floors with it and the wide walls collapsed from the roof to the ground floor.

When the firemen arrived a few minutes after the blaze was discovered the flames were shooting out of the roof and all the windows above the second floor. Men were jumping from windows, others were climbing down ropes made of bedclothes and a dozen jumped several stories to roofs of adjoining buildings and suffered broken limbs. Those who escaped unharmed ran about the streets in bathrobes or nightclothes apparently frenzied until they were carried into neighboring hotels. Heroism bordering on the superhuman was exhibited both by firemen and guests at the club.

The firefighters time and again dodged falling wall only to find themselves under another tottering mass of granite and brick.

Theodore Levy, of Louisville, Ky., clung to a window sill until both his hands were scorched black. Just as he was about to let go a fireman grasped him about the waist and carried him down a ladder. At the city hospital Levy said two of the men who had been killed jumped from the window in which he had clung. Thirteen men escaped from the fifth floor of the building by sliding down a rope made out of two sheets.

WARRANTS OUT.

EL PASO, Tex., Mar. 9.—Warrants charging M. E. Diebold, inspector of Mexican consulates, Senator De La Sierra, Mexican consul here, and two others with organizing filibustering expeditions on American soil were sworn out here today by agents of the department of justice.

SENT TO JAIL.

Fred Zulif, who is well known in police court circles, having been arrested several times in the last few months on charges of drunkenness, was sentenced to serve ten days in the county jail by Mayor Will H. Cole in police court Sunday morning.

C. W. Dressell, of Parkersburg, is transacting business here.

HUERTA'S ARMY WILL TAKE THE OFFENSIVE

That is the Effect of An Order Sent by Provisional President to All Governors.

MEXICO CITY, Mar. 9.—The federal army was today ordered to take the offensive against the forces under the command of General Carranza. Provisional President Huerta sent to all the governors of states and all the army commanders by telegraph the following order:

"Today the federal government begins a campaign against the rebels of the north. To that end you will see the necessity that the troops under your command assume actively an offensive in order to bring to a finish a situation which so prejudices the republic."

General Huerta again cautioned his followers to give protection to foreigners and warned the recipients of the order that they would be held by him responsible for any neglect in this particular.

TEXAS RANGERS DO NOT CROSS MEXICAN BORDER

AUSTIN, Tex., Mar. 9.—Texas Rangers did not cross the Mexican border nor participate in the expedition by which Clement Vergara's body was secretly exhumed from Hidalgo, Mexico cemetery, and deposited by persons as yet unidentified on the Texas side of the Rio Grande before daylight Sunday morning, according to the official version of the Vergara incident from state capital sources today. It is claimed that this version was borne out by despatches from Laredo, Tex., the nearest point to Hidalgo, where investigation could be made and transmitted by wire. Governor Colquitt gave out the following statement today:

Captain Sanders, commanding Company B of the Texas Rangers, at Laredo, advised me by telegraph that he had recovered the body of Vergara. I wired him for full particulars. He advised me that he did not go into Mexico at all but was informed that the body of Vergara would be delivered on the Texas side of the river at a particular place named at 3:30 o'clock Sunday morning where he found it. As to who brought it across the river he does not know. He had no assistance in this transaction except from the family and relatives of Vergara, who fully identified the body."

The governor said today he did not know whether he would have a further statement to make until he could get additional facts. He declared unequivocally last night when it was believed at Austin that Rangers had actually crossed the border that he had not issued specific instructions for them to cross.

The persons who exhumed the body from its Mexican grave thus far have kept their identity secret.

PRESIDENT EXPECTS FULL REPORT OF THE MATTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 9.—President Wilson expects full report from Governor Colquitt and American Consul Garrett as to the manner in which the body of Clement Vergara, an American citizen killed in Mexico, was returned to American soil. After reading news despatches some saying Texas Rangers had crossed over into Mexico.

AMERICANS SLAIN IN MEXICAN WAR

Hundred or More of Them Murdered Senator Fall Tells the American Senate.

WASHINGTON, Mar. 9.—Specific charges that more than 100 Americans and other foreigners have been killed, murdered or outraged during the last three years of revolution in Mexico were laid before the Senate today by Senator Fall, of New Mexico, in the course of a speech in which he urged armed intervention—not for war but for protection of non-combatants—and assailed the administration's policy.

Senator Fall's list gave names, dates and circumstances and was gathered from his own sources. The Benton, Vergara and Bauch killings and the death of the fifteen Americans in the Cumbre tunnel disaster are included in those since March 4, 1913. Acting Chairman Shively of the foreign relations committee armed with material from the White House and the state department was ready to give the administration's view but the prospect was that all today's session would be taken up with Mr. Fall's speech. Secretary Bryan, when he heard of Senator Fall's charges, said he would make no statement until he had read all the senator's speech and would for the present leave the administration's defense to senators.

CONCESSIONS

Proposed to Ulster under Home Rule is Laid before Parliament by Asquith.

LONDON, Mar. 9.—Premier Asquith today laid before the House of Commons his proposed concessions to Ulster in regard to its position under the Irish Home Rule bill. The announcement, which has been so long and anxiously awaited, was to the effect that before the bill became operative a poll should be taken of the parliamentary electors of each county to decide whether there should be an exclusion of the Ulster county from the provision of the bill for a period of six years from the first meeting of the new Irish parliament. If the majority of the voters was in favor of this scheme, the county would automatically be excluded for the prescribed period.

Mrs. Lynn S. Hornor went last evening to Washington to be a guest of her mother, Mrs. Frank Hornor, during the month of March in her winter home on Massachusetts avenue.

Chairman Swanson Submits Findings of Committee in This State.

NO REMEDIAL LEGISLATION

Various Causes for the Paint and Cabin Creek Trouble Set Forth in Report.

WASHINGTON, Mar. 9.—The report of the Senate sub-committee which investigated the West Virginia strike was filed in the Senate today by Senator Swanson, chairman of the committee. The report, which is a long and detailed one, contains recommendations, the committee planning that the resolution authorizing the investigation "conferred no power to recommend remedial legislation."

The report was a general review of the various reports and conditions in the Paint and Cabin Creek fields prepared by the individual members of the sub-committee. It took charge of various phases of investigation. In summing up conclusions of the committee, Senator Swanson said:

"The conditions existing in this district for many months were most pitiable. The hostility became so intense, the conflict so fierce that it existed in this district in a field as 'most deplorable' as any recommendations, the committee planning that the resolution authorizing the investigation 'conferred no power to recommend remedial legislation.'"

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TEAMSTER DROWNED

When He Tries to Ford Ten-mile Creek with a Team.

SHINNETON, Mar. 9.—The body of William Wells, aged 27 years, a teamster in the employ of George Sprout, of Lumberport, who was drowned late Saturday afternoon when he tried to ford Ten Mile creek with a team and wagon was taken to his home at St. Marys Monday where the funeral services, and burial will be held.

When Wells drove the team into the stream he was not aware that the current was so swift. Both horses and the wagon were carried down stream a considerable distance and all were drowned. The accident occurred at Lumberport.

Jefferson Knight, of Lumberport, visited friends in the city Sunday.

BOOTLEGGER

Is Harvey Moore Said to Be and United States Marshal is Coming after Him.

Charged with selling whiskey without a government license, Harvey Moore is held in the county jail awaiting the arrival of a deputy United States marshal from Parkersburg, who will take him to Fairmont for a hearing before United States Commissioner John W. Mason, Jr. Moore was arrested about 6 o'clock Sunday evening by Police Lieutenant Whyte and Officer Shope at the intersection station after they had evidence that he had sold whiskey to two parties here yesterday afternoon. He was locked up in the city jail and transferred to the county jail Monday afternoon.

ELFVEN DRUNKS.

Eleven drunks faced Mayor Will H. Cole in police court Sunday morning. Five of them paid their assessed fines and the other six, being financially unable to do so, were allowed to go.

REFUSES TO REVIEW.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 9.—The supreme court today refused to review the conviction in the "dynamiting cases" of Frank M. Ryan and twenty-three other members of the ironworkers union. Only a pardon can now keep the convicted men from the penitentiary.

Attorney Arlen G. Swiger, of Sistersville, spent Sunday in the city a guest of his sister, Miss Loring Swiger, in the Hardy apartments.

TO STRAIGHTEN

Sections of the Interurban Traction Line is the Intention Now.

That the Monongahela Valley Traction Company plans to straighten its interurban line between this city and Fairmont, has been announced. Several pronounced curves will be eliminated and other improvements made during the summer months. Engineers have staked the line at Hepzibah and Gore and report afterwards that it was possible to straighten both in a satisfactory manner. These are, at the present time, the worst on the line and while detrimental to making time or safety they interfere more or less with the modern manner of operating a road.

SCORY FUNERAL.

The funeral of Albert Valenti Scory, who fell from a train at Cincinnati, was largely attended Sunday afternoon and there were many fine floral tributes. Burial was at the Greenlawn cemetery, Adamsburg.

Mrs. Albert W. Hupp is a sister of her sister, Mrs. M. S. Jarvis, Washington, D. C.